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Every Little Helps.

What if a drop of rain should plead,
"So small a drop as I
Can ne'er refresh the thirsty mead;
I'll tarry in the sky?"
What if the shining beam of noon,
Should in its fountain stay,
Because its feeble light alone
Can not create a day?
Does not each rain-drop help to form
The cool refreshing shower?
And every ray of light to warm
And beautify the flower?—SEL.

Solomon Valley Church, Kansas.

June 18th.—It has been some time since I have seen anything in the EVANGELIST from this arm of the brethren church. D. O. Brumbaugh is our home minister, and by his request we wrote to C. Forney, of Buroak, Kansas, to come over and give us some preaching, he came and preached one sermon in the school house at Portis, on Saturday evening, June 5th. Next day Sunday, in the grove at D. O. Brumbaugh's house, with good and attentive congregations. On Monday evening he commenced a meeting at a school house, three miles north of Downs. He preached nine sermons here at this place with a crowded house, and with power, and the spirit of God accompanying it. The result of these meetings was nine precious souls were made willing, and came out and were baptized for the remission of sin, and others were convinced of their duty; but for reasons, best known to themselves, they did not come out at this time, but I think they will not stay away very long where they are at present. How I do wish that we had many more preachers in the field like brother Forney. It is not every preacher that is gifted as brother Forney is in delivery. Before the applicants were baptized he preached from the 18th of Matthew, and I never knew there was so much in that chapter before. If there is any thing in a chapter or verse, brother Forney will get it.

The prospect of building up a Brethren church here in this part is good, thanks be to God.

This is a healthy country and Brethren in the East, wishing to move to the West should come here and see this part of Kansas before locating.

DANIEL SHOOK.

Downs, Kansas.

Information Wanted.

Since the call for a church convention is again looming, I would like to ask a pertinent question or two.

Does the call simply mean a kind of a social reunion, a good time in general or rather partake of the nature of a S. S. convention with music, speaking, &c.?

We want to know what you mean before we can pass judgment whether to endorse or condemn the same.

Perhaps some, at least, who, from time to time, are agitating the question, have no definite idea themselves as to the object of a convention at this, or any other time; others may have a pet hobby to ride through a convention into life for a purpose.—Who knows, but what self-ag-

grandizement with some may be paramount to all other considerations.

A convention naturally presupposes business or pleasure, if the former—then label it as such and let the same always accompany the measures and business to which they should be conspicuously attached.

This course (evidently) would facilitate the measure under consideration, or at least satisfy the mind of the church. With patience I shall await an early answer, with a full diagnosis of the question under consideration.

D. A. LIGHTY.

Moving Slowly.

On the 23rd ult., was our regular time for meeting at Pleasant Hill, our home church. Two of our neighbors came and were baptized.

On the 29th was the time for communion at Edna Mills. This was an enjoyable season. Several brethren were in attendance from Burlington, (Sugar Grove) and about 20 from Flora. Nearly 100 were seated at the Lord's table. Of those who came from Flora two were baptized just before the communion. They were of brother Ridenour's last converts at Flora, and desiring to participate at the feast, they came and were baptized.

On the 5th inst., was the time of our regular meeting at Bunker Hill, in Miami Co. I stopped on the way and took brother B. L. Gordon with me, and we had a glorious feast at Bunker that evening. Next day brother Gordon preached an excellent sermon, after which we went out by a waterside, and when we had prayed we baptized a sister who had confessed the Lord at a previous meeting.

On the 13th (Pentecost) was the time of meeting at Sugar Grove, and the time set to baptize several. On account of the very heavy rain we did not get there, the distance being sixteen miles, but have learned since that our faithful brother B. L. Gordon baptized 3 dear souls. Thus the work is moving slowly but surely along. God bless the work.

To those who are enquiring after my whereabouts and what I am doing, whether I have gone Conservative, &c., &c., I would say, I have never discovered my conservatism if I have, and I am also trying to do a little by way of peaching, besides my domestic affairs. I am closely tied with pastoral work, I have a large territory.

I preach every Saturday evening and twice every Sunday, and occasionally throw a service in between. Isn't this enough for the like of me?

J. H. SWIHART.

June 19, 1886.

The Work of the Louisville S. S. Convention.

It is possible that the Louisville Convention and its work will not be properly valued unless special attention is called to it. We mean more especially the Missionary part of the work.

Every thing must have a beginning, and the Brethren's home mission work for the State of Ohio had its beginning, at Louisville, in Stark County, on the 11th day of June A. D. 1886; and we take the liberty to call the attention of our Brethren all over the State to the fact. A Board of five able and energetic Brethren has been appointed to whom the work is entrusted and who we hope will organize at an early date for efficient work. We also take the liberty to suggest to them to meet at Fair Haven as soon as a quorum of them can do so with letters of acquiescence from those who live at two remote a distance, and organize by electing a clerk and treasurer, and appoint a good active self-sacrificing sister or two as far as can be done in every church in the State, as local solicitors, and we hope by this means to be able to collect sufficient means during the coming year to enable them to make the movement effective. True the college debt is not quite out of the way, yet we feel sure there can be something done in this work too, and we will all live just as long and perhaps fare a little better in the end. Now for the work.

P. J. BROWN.

Pleasant Valley Items.

On Saturday, June 27th, I accompanied brother J. M. Rittgers to Pleasant Valley church in Cass Co., Michigan.

This is one of brother R's regular monthly appointments. He preached Saturday night, Sunday and Sunday night to audiences that seemed anxious to hear the word.

We attended the S. S. at 4 p. m. Bro. Albert Clark is Supt. The different classes seemed to take hold with a relish, and all seemed to be alive. Here the little ones are not neglected as is the case in some schools. On the previous Sunday, this school deviated from the usual routine and in connection with a neighboring school celebrated "Children's Day" in an appropriate manner. It was enjoyed not only by the little folks, for we heard much praise from the old folks who had not yet recovered from the good effects of the speeches, recitations and songs of the little ones.

These brethren believe in training the coming generation for future usefulness. This is right. Brethren, give the little ones a chance.

On Monday at 10 o'clock we had one of those meetings which we all so much enjoy. After devotional exercises, we repaired to a clear rippling stream close by, and brother Rittgers led six persons down into the baptismal waters. What a worthy example these three husbands and wives set for their children and friends.

The Pleasant Valley church will surely be strengthened by such additions as these.

On Monday night we met at the church to sing. We had a good attendance for harvest time and nearly all engaged heartily

in the work. The Hymnody was new to the singers, but before we dispersed they had mastered a number of pieces. The exercises closed by brother R. reading a Psalm and offering thanks to the Father who showers his gifts upon us, and asking his guidance in the future.

Arrangements were made for me to return in three weeks and hold at least one week of song prior to Bro. R's next visit, when the services will consist of thanksgiving for the bountiful harvest which is just now being gathered.

Yes, a real "Harvest Home" meeting. It seems to me if any people under the sun have reason for such a service, it is the brethren of Pleasant Valley, for surely, in no country or clime is there better soil and crops or more characteristics favorable to prosperity than is Cass Co., Mich.

I must not neglect to mention the excellent, neat and comfortable sanctuary these enterprising brethren built last fall. It is one of the best models I have seen. It is a frame structure large enough to hold all who attend ordinary meetings. It has a vestibule over which is a belfry and spire. The seats have backs wide enough to afford comfort to the worshiper during the longest sermon. A raised platform (one step high) with a circular platform around the pulpit one step higher. The whole house is carpeted, which renders it less sonorous from the contact of heavy boot, etc. I understand this house was built by four brethren who felt willing to shoulder the burden. Would that ever congregation had four such men.

On Tuesday morning we were conveyed to Cassopolis, but being three hours too early for our train on account of a change, we hired a canoe and trolling line and launched out on Stony Lake bent on pleasure and if possible some fish for dinner. Although one of our names is John it turned out that the other was neither James nor Peter, for we allowed the inhabitants of the lake all to remain undisturbed. Rittgers exclaiming "I don't care much for fish anyhow."

We arrived at South Bend in time for dinner. But we did not leave the two dozen quarts of cherries on the cars that the Gould sisters canned for us. Thanks to all for their kindness.

J. C. EWING.

South Bend, Ind., July 1, '86.

Ellerton, Ohio.

Dear Brethren in the ministry:—Let me urge you, without neglect or necessary delay, to report your respective congregations as I am about to do of those under my care, and the one in which I live. A list of all the congregations in the Brotherhood, their numerical strength, value of church property. Date of organization, ministers and deacons, names and addresses, together with a complete and corrected ministerial list published in the next annual, will make it a valuable

work of reference. Now we can not expect to have this desirable improvement in the Annual except we furnish the editors with the necessary statistics and information. Now will you make a note of this and not neglect it, so that we get a report from all our churches?

BEAR CREEK CONGREGATION, Ohio, was organized in 1882.

The membership is now 140; has one meeting house, value, \$4,000.

Resident ministers, J. P. Martin, New Lebanon, Ohio; J. A. Ridenour, Ellerton, Ohio; E. S. Miller, Dayton, Ohio; H. Murr, Trotwood, Ohio. The Deacons are, Abram Beeghly, Dayton, Ohio; M. C. Kimmel, Liberty, Ohio; J. M. Murray, Miamiburg, Ohio.

One Sabbath School.

EATON CONGREGATION, IND., was organized in 1885. Has a membership of 33; no church property. One S. School.

Pastor, J. A. Ridenour, of Ellerton, Ohio. Deacon, Geo. Wrench, Eaton, Ind.

J. A. RIDENOUR.

P.S. I vote for a convention as soon as we are ready.

Deer Lick, O.

The Brethren of Silver Creek, Ohio, held their communion meeting on Sunday eve, June 20th. We had a good meeting. About fifty communed. The love of God seemed to flow from heart to heart. All felt that it was good to be there. May we never tire in serving God, but always press on to the mark of the prize of the high calling, which is in Christ Jesus. Ever looking unto God the author and finisher of our faith. Dear brothers and sisters let us prove faithful a few more days and soon Jesus will say, "it is enough: come up higher." Yours in the bonds of Christian love. Your sister in Christ.

ELIZA M. YAGEL.

South-western, Kansas.

There are thousands of men, women and children, who have not had the Gospel preached to them for many months, simply because the church has not been able to keep up with the tide of emigration. But we trust that if God will bless us, and favor us with good crops the work of organizing churches will begin; and let us not be behind in the work, but let us take early steps to establish the Brethren church in this newly settled country.

We realize the need of a more extensive missionary work in this State. Then brethren let us freely assist in this grand work, and we shall be justly rewarded.

This is a beautiful country with good soil and every thing indicative of a good farming country. Government land is all taken up, but land can be bought cheap.

Brethren wishing to correspond with a view to locating in S. W. Kansas, will always receive a prompt reply from

J. L. HAMILTON.

Corbitt, Ford Co., Kans.